ſmaller plant, are ſufficient at all times to diſtinguiſh it from that; though a reſemblance in habit and external appearance has cauſed the two ſpecies to be confounded together. This, however, could not have happened, had a ſtrict regard been had to the fructification in both.

In the Polypodium thelypteris, the ſeed-veſſels are arranged in cloſe regular lines, along the margin of the lobes; at firſt of a pale colour, changing brown in the progreſs; and, after the diſcharge of the ſeeds, ſpread out in breadth ſo as to occupy the whole diſk, except the middle only; this, however, is not always the caſe, for in ſome ſpecimens the lines remain diſtinct and ſeparate to the laſt; and in thoſe moſt effectually covered, the diſpoſition and arrangement of the ſeed-veſſels, in marginal lines, remain viſible.

But in the ſpecimen of Acroſtichum thelypteris now before me, which is in a middle ſtate of growth, and is accurately figured, *Tab.* 43, *Fig.* a, ſome of the ſeed-veſſels are viſible, as is expreſſed at *Fig.* c; they are ſmall, white, and placed irregularly on each ſide of the nerve; ſome are further advanced in growth than others; and the whole diſk, when a little magnified, appears beſet with ſmall tubercles, under which other ſeed-veſſels, yet in embrio, are lodged.

In the full grown plant, of which two ſecond leaves are figured, *Tab.* 44, on *Plate* 45, the whole under ſide, except the margin only, is cloſely covered with ſmall ſeed-veſſels, and they originate in every part of the diſk, as in the genus Acroſtichum, not in regular lines or rows, as in Polypodium. *Fig.* a. in *Tab.* 44, is a ſingle lobe magnified.

The barren leaves, *Fig.* b, were in a ſtate of half growth in the ſpecimens I examined; after the decay and fall of the ſecond leaves, the rib of the firſt leaf turns brown, and abides on the root over winter.

JAMES BOLTON *Filices Britannicae (An History of the British Proper Ferns)* LEEDS, 1785–1790 CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN Octavo